

Bilbao 10-V-50

R. Q.

Aloysius Ellacuria C. M. F.
Los Angeles

Querido y estimado tío: Hace ya tiempo, que
esperamos con gran ilusión, tipiera una pre-
via carta tuya, si supieras bien la alegría
tan grande que nos causaría, sobre todo a mamá
y mi hermano, quienes junto con papá y yo te
recordamos mucho.

Respecto a mi te diré querido tío,
que ya soy persona civil, y gracias a eso puedo
ahora desempeñar el cargo de la tienda, aunque
que no del todo, pues en realidad todavía
tengo que orientarme por mamá por ser mucho
más atendida por yo, también me hago cargo
que los años de experiencia que ella tiene, no
los tengo yo.

En mi vida particular, yo creo que
no soy todo lo bueno que en realidad
podría ser, puesto que debiera cumplir con
más frecuencia, no con eso quiero decir que
no lo hago, pero si me poco más cuando
también me place en comunicarte que he
ganado el jubileo de este año santo puesto
con mi amigo Fernando, cosa que en realidad
no te he dicho nada de más, si me contaras un
buen cristiano.

Pero no qui tiere, pero si no es mucho pedirte
reses mucho por mi, pues creo que lo necesito
bastante, para ser buen cristiano. y para ser
trabajador, pues nunca ya la pobre necesito
mucho descanso. y soy yo quien en realidad tiene
que hacerse cargo de todo, pues como hombre
que corresponde, tengo tan mala edad que
no qui tiere perderme, como mucho chicos
de mi edad estan completamente perdidos
respecto a vicios y otras cosas nada agra-
dable de explicar.

Tengo miedo, querido tio de que me pueda
ocurrir algo de eso, pues en realidad, nadie
esta libre de caer en una mala tentacion.
¿Si? tengo miedo, y por eso necesito una per-
suna que me guie, y la persona mas indicada
para eso me parece tu, ya que con tus consejos
y tus catejos sabes que me van mucho
mas confiado, lo mismo espiritualmente ~~que~~
para mi alma, que mundanamente para mi y
para mis proximos.

Esperando tu pronta carta que creo que sera
rapida recibire un abrazo muy fuerte de
tu sobrino que te quiere de verdad.

Pachito

P. D. Tengo gran confianza que me envias to
a esta carta, ya que sabes que me hacen falta
mucho tus consejos.

April 11, 1950.

My dear Father Gillespie:

Your letter received on Good Friday. As soon as I received your letter I asked Our Lord, since it was Good Friday, the day of the Redemption par excellence, the day of His great mercy, to save the soul of your dear brother Cornelius. I couldn't visit him that day, but I had people begin to pray for him. Then we began a novena to Bl. Anthony Claret, our Founder, praying for Cornelius' soul.

I couldn't see him either Holy Saturday or Easter Sunday. But Easter Monday I managed to go to 1930 $\frac{1}{2}$ Rodney. I found in front of the house in the yard basking in the California sunshine, two elderly men. I had a hunch that maybe one of them was Cornelius. I told them that I wanted to speak to Cornelius Gillespie on behalf of his brother Joseph of Cleveland, Ohio. Right away the one whom I addressed declared that he was Cornelius, and smiling, rose up and invited me into his house. Florence opened the door and there both of them graciously asked me whether I knew you, whether I was a Jesuit, whether I was of German descent, and other questions. I told them that I knew you just by correspondence, that I was not a Jesuit, but our Order was founded by Bl. Claret who had been a Jesuit novice while Father Roothan was General of the Jesuits. I did my best to break the ice. I tried to be as friendly as I could. Cornelius was smiling all the while and felt at ease, and to my surprise was feeling well, without any pain, practically healed of his operation of the kidneys, and Florence brought a little vial in which she showed me the large stone which had been extracted from Cornelius kidneys.

Then our conversation rambled about different points, about your being a magician, and Cornelius commented on how you picked it up after your ordination, especially during these last ten years. They said also how much they like California. They don't care to go any more to Detroit.

Cornelius said that he was going to write to you about his health. Once in a while I would tell him how God was very interested in his soul. They both were very intent and Cornelius smiled all the while. Florence asked me some questions on the High Episcopalian Church. It seems that once in a while they go to that church in Hollywood where they reside.

The place where they live is a row of adjoining houses, comfortable and quiet, not far from the Immaculate Heart Sisters Mother House, high school and college. It is about a twenty-minute drive from Westchester Place, where I live.

They asked me for my address and invited me to see them again on

ST. GENEVIEVE CONVENT
4846 MONTANA STREET
CHICAGO 39, ILLINOIS

April 11, 1950

Dear Father Aloysius,

The letter you wrote me in January was greatly appreciated. I don't know what I would do without your notes and letters, they have done so much for me. Many times I have read them over. I only wish they weren't so few and far between!

For days I have been putting this letter off and I have at last come to the conclusion that it is the devil himself who has been prompting me to do so.

In the past I have been able to tell you that all was well with me but now I must say that I do not feel as close to our dear Lord as I have previously. Prayer is not as easy as it was and I find that I am more readily taken up with exterior things. Distractions are more frequent and I seem so often to lack courage.

Recently I have had a great interest in one of my pupils. I might even say, a real affection. Would you call this an inordinate affection? If so, it is the only thing I can accuse myself of that may have brought about this feeling, otherwise I cannot account for it. In any case, I am resolved to follow your advice, for this, I know, is from Him.

Repeatedly I whisper the aspiration, "My Jesus, I cling to You with my whole heart." I do not want inordinate desires and affections, not even the smallest, but somehow or other, since Christmas I have had to struggle with such. First one thing and then another!

He has not failed to direct me, through you, yet. He will not fail me now. In this I have confidence.

Continue to pray for me, won't you, Father? I shall write you again in about a month. If it is God's Will, I hope to hear from you in the near future.

I shall join with all the Claretians in their joyous celebrations and prayers next Sunday. I am asking Saint Anthony Claret to guide the vocations of three of my boys.

Gratefully in the Sacred Heart,

Sister Mary Virginia

¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Pamphona. A 13 de Abril de 1950.

Querido Juan Luis: Ya debía haber salido esta carta hace cuarenta días, fecha en que recibí en Cascante tu gratinima del 31 de Marzo. Pero, la vida ministerial tiene exigencias absorbentes y también inaplazables. Además, tras el trabajo ministerial, al regresar a casa, solo queda la postración de nervios y de cuerpo, quedándose el misionero, sin masganas que las de entregarse al descanso; otra cosa no nos es posible.

Mi actuación en Cascante ha tenido demasiada aceptación; por lo cual, estoy preguntándome: ¿Cuál será la prueba que me mandará Dios ahora? Porque resulta que el Señor va conjugando las penas y alegrías de tal manera, que, al recibir las invasiones del Alegrón, ya estoy pensando en la avenida de la tristeza... Así es la vida y así debe ser, para que sepamos mirar hacia arriba. Aquello ha sido demasiado apoteósico...; ahora, ¡que Dios me de paciencia para lo que venga...!

Puntualizando: Creo que voy a Roma; tengo todos los permisos y llenadas las comisiones; solo falta recibir el carnet de peregrino.

Sueño con tu encuentro en Roma... De los familiares no podrá ir Mary Tere, porque, por ausencia de Pachito y el malestar de Polítendra que encargarse de las dos tiendas. En cambio, irán Juli y Nstichu.

El número que autoriza el Gobierno español es de 2,400 peregrinos... Había apuntados mas de 50,000.

Si tu me pagas el acompañamiento, podre ir contigo por España, etc. Lo que mas me interesa es Fátima... Todo lo demás, es muy interesante, pero, no me entusiasma. Con todo, si puedo acompañarte por Italia, Francia y España, como creo que si (depende del permiso del P. General, que no me lo negara) lo hare de mil amores y encantado.

¡Oh BICOCA! Así se puede calificar tu propuesta, para ir a esa durante x años a predicar santas Misiones populares. Esto es mi desideratum. ¿Será que el influjo de nuestra buena Madre me va aconceder el sueño dorado de mi vida? No tengo mas que una ambición; predicar misiones con provecho para las almas, ganarme el cielo mediante ellas y teniendo parte en sus obras buenas...; acreditar mi Instituto Misionero por excelencia; formar un Equipo Misionero..., como el que tienen las otras Congregaciones, pues, por desgracia, nos vamos quedando muy atrás en España..., cuando podíamos igualarlos y aun superarlos. Juan Luis, tu propuesta ha sido para mi una embajada angelica. Pero..., tal vez demasiado halagueña, para que se convierta en pronta realidad. Voy a tratar de conseguirlo. No quiero descubrirlo, mas que a contados individuos, porque la sola publicacion del plan labraria su destruccion...

El camino a seguir, para conseguirlo, es el siguiente: El P. Llobet, o cualquier de vosotros expone al Gobierno General la necesidad de Misioneros de habla Española en Estados Unidos por algunos años... Simultaneamente escribire al M.R.P. Bajo, para prevenirle del objeto que nos ocupa y brindarme a este apostolado, que es el propio de la Congregación.

Telephone A. 15 de April de 1950.

2º)- Formación del futuro Equipo Misionero. 3º)- Adquisición de dollars para esta necesitada provincia. 4º.- El prestigio de la Congregación, con los Misioneros que siguen procedimientos de ultramar y, sobre todo, de Estados Unidos... Etc. Creo que el P. Bajo apoyará mi solicitud. Por otra parte, no hará inconveniente en el Gobierno Provincial. Tan sólo creo que encontraría mucho inconveniente en la Casa donde resido, pues, soy actualmente quien mejor la puedo sostener; pero, aprovechando la coyuntura de las próximas elecciones, no pueden pensar en labor obstructiva, toda vez que no es de regla que me quede aquí, luego que terminar. Me está esperando el buen hermano, para llevar la carta.

Un fuerte abrazo de tu hermano,

Un fuerte abrazo de tu hermano,

coque y bringarme a este apostolado, que es el propio de la Congregación. Simultáneamente escribiré al I.R.F. Bajo, para prevenirle del objeto que nos reúne de Hispanistas de habla Española en Estados Unidos por algunas años... res: El P. Hubert, o sus seguidores vosotros exponen al Gobierno General la necesidad de conseguirlo, es el siguiente: El camino a seguir, para conseguirlo, es el siguiente:

April 14th St. Justin

Dear Father Aloysius:

This is a short note to bid you God speed. I trust that You will pray for me over in Rome. May all go well with you and your group on your Pilgrimage. Docile to God's Will, I continue to pray. I have written to Burgos as you directed.

Perhaps you can phone Lou Rose before you leave and ask him to mail me the booklet of photos which he has. During the interim of your stay in Rome, someone might want to see these photos.

You will be remembered each day in this oasis with prayers. May it be a spiritual Communion, each day a new delight in the Lord.

I beg prayers from you. Many many thanks for your recent prayers, that I be a child of Mary, always.

Your spiritual son,

Paul.

And so Father, it has been the highlight spiritually of my life in this desert solitude to meet you. I like to think of Paul the Hermit in his youth, hearing of Anthony of the high peaks and lonely caves and the sudden visions in those African Mountains. I like to dwell on the close tie that was there, although they did not meet until they were almost a hundred years old. Praying together, growing together in the Love of God. But in comparison, I, Paul of this desert, hundreds of years later, am but a swaddling infant, so you must needs hear and be sympathetic to my request, that of becoming my spiritual director; for I have been led to you, and possibly for great things, that my soul may be saved, but more, that I may be of service to others through Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and His Immaculate Mother Mary. God's will be done.

No transaction have taken place on this oasis, nor is anything definite ahead; but there are now three parties who are interested.

I have held the thoughts that you expounded, and which apparently came to you in your very practical manner along with these sudden flashes or insights into the future: I can see myself on a trip to the Holy Land with you and yours, God Willing, I can see myself in the week's retreat at Burgos with the Carthusians, I can see myself particularly with you and your Claretian brethren somewhere climbing the heights, perhaps right here in the southern part of California.

And one thing that Mary Immaculate seems to want is a holy and a spiritual house here in this blessed desert refuge. Can this be the Cistercians? If so, it would be almost entirely a gift to them. However, I have some land up canyon on which I had hoped to build a hermitage after this place on which I live now was sold. Whatever, God Will Know. And Do. So let us place it in His Hands.

Father, how often am I led back in my mind to your place there in Los Angeles, to the simplicity of the school, the little holy chapel, the library with the boy's habits slung on hooks nearby, to the holy and spiritual feeling that is there--and how I wish it all existed right here in this Oasis! That was the reason that I went to Los Angeles for!

But God Knows. And now, may I send you greetings, and thanks for the Letter from Pope Pius to the Claretians and also on the occasions, this year, of the Canonization of your Claretian founder and brothers. It is an Order with Mary in its midst, now cleansed by martyr's blood, and it will prosper and live always.

Thanks for your prayers, may mine be acceptable by God that you may know true humility and grow daily in God's Love. Please pray for me at your Holy Mass, dear Father.

Sincerely your friend,

Paul



Our Lady Academy
Manteno, Illinois

April 14, 1950

Rev. Father Aloysius -
California -

Rev. and dear Father,

Having heard you are going to Rome I hasten to write you to ask you a very special favor. Won't you please remember me in your prayers, for a very important matter while you are making the Pilgrimage?

I have been wanting to write you for a long time, however, prostration and lack of time are always the main reasons for not doing so.

Rev. Father, since you left Manteno I have never had the occasion of opening my heart to any confessor, and I long to do so. Only Our Lord knows how much I am in need of a good understanding director.

If ever you come to Illinois, won't you please inquire of my whereabouts, and may I have the privilege of speaking to you?

I don't think it is amiss to thank you again for all the good you have done me while you were here, for with God's grace I have profited of your fatherly advices and feel satisfied. I try to keep very close to the dear Lord whom I have chosen and I have learned to love the shadows and smile when the going is hard, because He is always leading me and I want always to follow His way, not my own.

I am in my fortieth year of teaching. As I grow older I feel the responsibility pressing so intensely that I feel I ought to demand a change of work.



Our Lady Academy

Manteno, Illinois

Please ask God to make me more and more spiritually efficient for my work - to do lots of good to those little souls entrusted to my care. This year I have fifty-eight children in my class, all dear little brothers and sisters of our Lord and I love them all for Jesus.

I was deeply sorry to hear of your Mother's death. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy. I have been praying for her as rather to her because I visualize your ^{Mother} as a saint, and I am certain she must be already enjoying eternal bliss.

Well, Rev. Father, may I count on your prayers for a very special intention?

I take the privilege of signing myself

Your daughter in the Holy Heart of Mary

Sister Aimée of Jesus -

April 15, 1950.

Mr. Bruce H. Mohler,
Bureau of Immigration, NCWC,
1312 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.,
Washington 5, D.C.

My dear Mr. Mohler:

This letter is to express to you my deep gratitude for your kind help in my efforts to obtain the necessary government papers for my Holy Year pilgrimage, and to tell you not to expect the ~~receipt of my passport~~ in Washington for approval because, on the advice of the local immigration authorities, the papers have been sent to San Francisco in order to expedite matters. As soon as the double certificate of naturalization arrived, I called on the local immigration authorities, who gave me this counsel.

I will attempt to repay your kindness with my prayers on my trip to Rome and to the shrines at Fatima and Lourdes, and I know that Bl. Anthony Claret, our Founder, will hear my prayers of gratitude for you when I attend his canonization.

Asking God's blessing upon you, I am

Respectfully yours,

Rev. Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

April 15, 1950.

Dear Sister Virginia:

Your Easter card with Mass stipends and your letter of April 11th most welcome. Many thanks for the Mass stipends and for allowing me to have my own intention in saying them.

My word of encouragement for you is to do you very best during this Holy Year of 1950 to give to God every bit of your heart and soul with perfect detachment from creatures and without any compassion for yourself or without any excuse, and never to allow any human affection to abide in you. When any person is somewhat attractive to you, just watch it most carefully not to bestow attention and much less affection on that person. Just pray for the soul of that person and keep your eyes always away from the one concerned. Do not allow your mind, either, to dwell on any person for whom you feel a special affection. In all these instances just return with all your soul to Jesus and kiss the crucifix with great affection. Read more and more on the love of God, on souls and their eternal salvation.

Do not get discouraged if sometimes things could have been better, but renew your fervor every day, especially when you make the stations of the Cross. At the Twelfth Station prostrate yourself at the foot of the Cross, taking the place of Mary Magdalene, and promise Our Lord unswerving fidelity. Do a lot of thinking and praying constantly. Also, let your mortifications be constant.

Continue being most gracious, even with those who give you occasions to suffer. Consider that they are also in the plan of God instruments for your sanctification, and good ones at that, if one just is most supple in the Hands of God, Who, through the instrumentality of creatures, writes straight in crooked lines.

My dear mother died a saintly death January 30th. She was assisted at her deathbed by my Claretian brother, Reverend Joseph Mary. My mother gave up to the last wonderful example of her love for the Holy Rosary and of meeting death with heroic courage and serenity. The last three days of her life her children and some of her grandchildren were at her bedside saying one Rosary after another. They made the recommendation of her soul eight times. I was expecting to see her this coming month, May, but I was glad to make the sacrifice to God for allowing my mother to die in such circumstances instead of dying somewhat later all by herself or suddenly.

The last day of this month I am flying to Rome to attend the canonization of my Founder, who, from May 7th on, will be called St. Anthony Claret. I will pray for you in Rome and at the shrines of Lourdes and Fatima. I will

be back June 18th.

May Our Lord through the mediation of our Blessed Mother, keep your soul all the days of your life fully resurrected with keen earnestness to advance every day into a greater sanctity.

Extend my best regards to the members of your family.

Your spiritual Father in the Immaculate
Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Sister Mary Virginia,
St. Genevieve Convent,
4846 Montana St.,
Chicago 39, Ill.

Sunday 19th

Dear Father Aloysius:

Thro prayer, I'm certain it is the sense of duty to my family - particularly my sister in the sanatorium and her 4 fatherless children - that compelled me to write my last letter to you. They do and will need help, above all.

But I also feel that I have stopped the flow of events shaped by Our Immaculate Mother. I know She wants this place to be taken out of my hands, so that I will be free to do God's further Will. Rome, Burgos, Fatima, Lourdes.

In this light, your Realtor friend in the city should be informed of need for quick sale. Photos should be shown, I could send him a map, statistics on ranch, if you think it wise.

With a down payment, I could pay for trip to Rome for 2 of us, Rosa and me, and at my return, then we could talk of what I could give to Christians in honor of Our Immaculate Mother. The Will of God, in my decision at Burgos, would govern this. To be done to Mary's wish - that is my prayer!

Sincerely in Christ,
your spiritual son,
Paul.

April 23, 1950.

My dear Paul:

My warmest congratulations for having written to Burgos for information. When I am in Rome I will do my best to get information on the Camalduli. I want you to be permanently settled as a monk either in Burgos or in Rome. I wish the same for your friend, John Krupa. Both of you will be constantly remembered throughout my pilgrimage.

Keep on praying very earnestly that your days of exile be shortened. It is a great sacrifice for me to go to Rome without you. My heartiest thanks for all your prayers.

Lou Rose is sending you the booklet of photos.

May the Holy Spirit prepare your soul in the Immaculate Heart of Mary for all that is ahead of you.

Your spiritual Father in the Immaculate
Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Mr. Paul Wilhelm,
1000 Palms Oasis,

Thousand Palms, Calif.

April 23, 1950.

Dear Mother Mary Elizabeth:

Your letter of April 10th arrived promptly and many thanks for it. I was really glad to hear from you and even more glad to be able to do something for you. Carol Davis has visited me twice and is coming back this afternoon.

I think your convent will be going places with her. I mean that she is, according to some very reliable sources, the best writer that the Tidings ever has had, and that what this Merton has been for the Trappists, Carol Davis can be for the Carmelite nuns. My congratulations! Carol is very humble and receives my directions most submissively.

I hope that the Sister that underwent the operation on the cataracts is feeling well. I am praying for your monastery and on my pilgrimage to Rome I will remember your Carmel of St. Joseph most particularly.

May our Bl. Mother be the life, the sweetness and the hope of your soul and of the souls of your subjects!

The last day of April I am flying from Los Angeles towards Rome. I will be back June 18th. Pray for me so that this pilgrimage be a means for my spiritual progress, and also that it may help me in many ways to become a better instrument in the Hands of God on behalf of souls.

Most gratefully in the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Mother Mary Elizabeth, D.C.,
Carmel of St. Joseph,
3361 East Ocean Blvd.,
Long Beach 3, Calif.

April 23, 1950.

Dear Mrs. Reehorst:

Your Holy Mass will be offered Sunday, April 30th, which is also the Feast of St. Catherine of Siena. It will be my last Mass in the United States until June 19th. It will be a high Mass, our novices singing, and I will be so happy to offer it for you--as you put it, a Mass of love, adoration and thanksgiving to God through the Sacred Hearts of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and all His Saints (also His uncanonized saints in Rhoda Wise, Rose Ferron and Brother Andre), for the blessings bestowed upon you and your family in the illness from which you are convalescing.

I will be very happy to remember all your intentions on my pilgrimage to Rome. Do also continue praying for me.

Most gratefully in the Immaculate
Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Mrs. Marcella Reehorst,
804 E. Noward,
Pasadena 6, Calif.

April 23, 1950.

Dear Sister Mary of the Passion:

Many thanks for your Easter greetings. Your Holy Mass of thanksgiving in honor of the Sacred Heart received my prompt attention. Many thanks for your good wishes because they have become a reality. The last day of this month I am flying to Rome. There I will attend the canonization of Bl. Claret, May 7th. I will be back June 19th. While on my pilgrimage I certainly will be happy to pray for you. You continue praying for me also.

We began last night in the dining room reading the life of St. Gertrude. Do try to be very familiar with the spirit of St. Gertrude--you will like it better every time--in order to deal with Our Lord the way she did. Her confidence in Our Lord was supreme and her love for the Passion and the Sacred Heart and the Poor Souls in Purgatory was just wonderful.

May God bless you more and more with ever-increasing desire for holiness, and may you save countless souls.

Gratefully in the Immaculate Heart
of Mary,

Father Aloysius Elacuria, C.M.F.

Sister Mary of the Passion,
St. Mary-of-the-Wosatch,
Salt Lake 5, Utah.

April 23, 1950.

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Gratefully in the Immaculate Heart
of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Sister Mary of the Passion,
St. Mary-of-the-Wosatch,
Salt Lake 5, Utah.

April 23, 1950.

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Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Mrs. Marcella Reehorst,
804 E. Noward,
Pasadena 6, Calif.

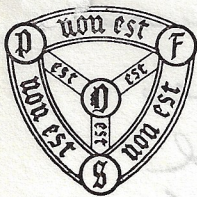
Miss Agustina Carrillo
307 N. Kern Ave.

Los Angeles 22 Calif.
Conchita Torres
414 North McDonald
L. A. 22.

MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM

Miss Tomasa Miranda
448 S Evergreen Ave.
Los Angeles 33 Calif.



J. M. + J. J.

Monastery of the Holy Trinity

HUNTSVILLE

UTAH

April 23, 1950

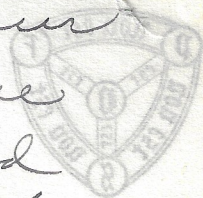
Pax Christi!

My dear Father Abbot,

I hear you are leaving for Europe the end of this month, and I wanted to write before you left.

Mother Elizabeth and others told me of your recent loss of your dear Mother. I can well imagine what a blow it must have been, especially since you were to see her this spring after many years of painful separation. I have prayed much for you both. Mother Elizabeth asked us to offer a Mass for her, and I am remembering her daily.

I hear about your
conferences from the
Sisters of Charity and
the Carmelites, and how
much good you are doing.



I shall never forget
what a help you were
to me. I miss your
direction very much.

Since my very entrance
Our Lord has allowed
me to feel my helplessness
by plunging me
into a darkness dispelled
only on two brief occasions
since. Please pray that
I cooperate perfectly with
this grace. I have never
felt farther away from
God, but I know that He
is with me.

You are in all my
misses. Thank you for
your good prayers.

Sincerely in the Sacred Heart,

Father M. Emmanuel, O.C.S.O.

ST. GENEVIEVE CONVENT
4846 MONTANA STREET
CHICAGO 39, ILLINOIS

April 23, 1950

Dear Father Aloysius,

You will never know how very much I appreciate your letter of last week. After reading it over many times I realize more fully the extreme necessity of complete detachment from all, even the simplest affection for creatures. I have carefully watched this with regard to adults but not with my pupils. This is where I have failed! It is not going to be easy to controll this affection, when, for me, it is such a natural one, however, I am making the effort, and with every intention to continue doing so.

Really, it looks like Our Lord wants all or nothing since He seems to withdraw and leave me lonely and depressed after each failure and imperfection. I am definitely the happiest when I am giving all, sacrificing, and working with a pure intention. Is not all this a further indication that He continues to "run after me?" A strange choice, isn't it, Father? Why does He do it? I have so many faults! He has gone out of His way so many times to teach me, and prove to me, that He wants all of my love. If only I could do something big, something truly great, to make up to Him in a hurry! I just live in hopes that, with your help, I will someday reach perfection. There can be no let down. I realize this more and more as time goes on and since I don't have the opportunity of talking to you, greater effort is required.

Yes, Father, I shall renew my promise of unswerving fidelity to Our Lord each day. I do want to be most faithful to Him.

I am so happy that you are being given the opportunity of going to Rome for the canonization of your Founder. While there, will you say a few prayers for two of my boys who are planning to join the Claretians next year?

Our Dear Lord certainly has asked a big sacrifice of you in taking your good mother just at a time when you could have been with her. He knew you could take it so willingly and lovingly for Him! Would that I could take things as you do! I have prayed much for your dear mother and shall continue to do so. The dollar that I am inclosing is a Mass offering for the repose of her soul.

Father, if, on your way to Rome, you stop, even for a short time, in Chicago, please allow me to see you. It would mean so much! If you will let me know I can come to the place where you are staying or, if you prefer, I can send a car for you to come out to our place. I would like to see you.

Thanks again, Father, for the nice letter. It has done much to help me already.

Gratefully in the Sacred Heart of Jesus,

Telephone
Berkshire 7-5652

Sister Mary Virginia

April 23, 1950.

Dear Miss Haggerty:

Your Holy Masses received my prompt attention. Also your intentions are always in my prayers, as you ask. The last day of this month I am flying to Rome to attend the canonization of my dear Founder, Anthony Mary Claret. I certainly will remember you on my pilgrimage.

Asking the continuance of the blessings of God upon you,

Sincerely and gratefully in
the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Miss Katherine Haggerty,
838 So. Detroit Ave.,
Los Angeles 36, Calif.

April 23, 1950.

Dear Gomoll Family:

My heartiest thanks for your thoughtfulness and generosity. I feel also very happy because Eric is receiving Communion oftener now than before. I encourage you all to go to the Sacraments as often as you can. How nice it would be if you could go every morning to Holy Mass and Communion! We need the grace of God so much, and we see how the things of this earth are so fleeting and cannot satisfy us. Particularly since Eric has such a good soul, such wonderful dispositions, and because I baptized him, I am most interested in his becoming a very fervent Catholic. Be sure that I will remember you all on my pilgrimage to Rome.

God bless you and love you.

Sincerely and gratefully in the
Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Gomoll,
4172 $\frac{1}{2}$ Dalton Ave.,
Los Angeles 37, Calif.

April 23, 1950.

My dear spiritual daughter:

I have been praying for you more than ever since you are up by Lake Arrowhead. You need now spiritual help as well as all kinds of helps in order to succeed with your big enterprise.

What happened with Alberta pained my heart quite a bit, though I did try not to show it exteriorly. May I tell you most confidentially what the Puetz family told me? But I don't want to have it repeated to anyone. It is as follows: They found the place not suitable for a convent. It seems that they don't think much of the site that you have chosen. Maybe you might say that there was not much choice in the matter, because you had to take what they gave you. The way Mr. Puetz spoke, he doesn't like it. He said that he does not mind poverty, but likes to have things in order and also enough room, no dogs and cats inside of the building because they spread their hairs where they touch. Also, the place did not look like a religious house at all. Some company was there when the Puetzes arrived and there was a pile of boxes all over. Please do not quote me at all. I told them not to make any new decision and maybe later on when the other girls enter, Alberta could enter with them. In the meanwhile, you arrange things there and try to have things as neat as possible.

So Alberta is going to wait. Now Dolores 'phoned me last night, and she wants to enter as soon as her sister from San Francisco is able to help her parents. She seems to be very loyal to you and she will be a better help to have before the other girls arrive so as to help arrange things.

On my pilgrimage to Rome I will have your Foundation very present in my heart, asking Our Lord and the Immaculate Heart of our Bl. Mother to bless you, as well as St. Francis and St. Clare, because I am going to visit Assisi, and there I will pray for you.

I will try to bring you something from Rome.

May our Bl. Mother be your life, your sweetness and your hope throughout the trials of your Foundation.

Your spiritual Father,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Miss Mary Walsh,
P. O. Box 363,
Lake Arrowhead, Calif.

J.M.J.

The Sisters of Charity
Saint John's Hospital
Santa Monica, California

April 24, 1950

Reverend and dear Father Aloysius:

We were very pleased to participate in the Solemn High Mass offered in honor of Mother Soledad. Your Novices sang the Mass well. I shall be asking for them to sing in our Chapel when we have a suitable occasion.

I have given out all the reliquary crucifixes of Blessed Anthony Claret that Mrs. Rose left with me. May I please have twenty more when I call with Mrs. Spillane on Wednesday afternoon? We expect to be there about three-thirty.

I am happy to tell you that Ann Lawrence, the patient I asked you to pray for, was able to leave the hospital yesterday. Our Novina finishes today. Doctor Lawrence and his family are most appreciative of God's goodness in restoring Ann's health. When she returned the reliquary crucifix to me yesterday, she kissed it reverently and told me what a comfort she had found in holding it in her hand during her days in the hospital. Her non-Catholic nurse told me she thought Ann would appreciate a crucifix to take home so I gave her a Rosary with a little booklet explaining how to recite it. She was a very apt pupil and assured me that she understood how to use it. Please thank the Novices for the prayers they said for Ann's recovery.

Sincerely yours in the Heart of Christ,

Sister Ann Raymond

J. M. L.
The Sisters of Charity
Saint John's Hospital
Santa Monica, California

April 26, 1950.

Reverend and dear Father Alayrins.

Mrs. Spillone appreciated your visit this afternoon. Your assurance that Father Emmanuel is doing God's will was a comfort to her.

Mrs. Rose was here yesterday and gave me seven reliquary crucifixes. I am enclosing an offering for them with the offering for the ones I asked for today - I am sure that the people who receive these crucifixes will appreciate them and will receive graces by their prayers in honor of Blessed Christ. Thank you very much. Please let me know if you receive the money. I will send it special delivery.

J. M. J.
The Sisters of Charity
Saint John's Hospital
Santa Monica, California

April 26, 1950.

Reverend and dear Father Alayrins.

Mrs. Spillone appreciated your visit this afternoon. Your assurance that Father Emmanuel is doing God's will was a comfort to her.

Mrs. Rose was here yesterday and gave me seven reliquary crucifixes. I am enclosing an offering for them with the offering for the ones I asked for today - I am sure that the people who receive these crucifixes will appreciate them and will receive graces by their prayers in honor of Blessed Claret. Thank you very much. Please let me know if you receive this money. I will send it special delivery.

*The Sisters of Charity
Saint John's Hospital
Santa Monica, California*

May I again wish you a safe trip
filled with very special grace and
gifts from God.

To the intentions I asked you to pray for
this afternoon, I am adding several
others, among them, peace in a family;
the return of health for a patient who left
the hospital today - The gift of faith for
two patients now in the hospital - We are
asking to share in the Federal funds for
Hospital construction - that we may complete our
building.

May God bless you for your charity to
us in asking God's guidance.

Sincerely yours in the Heart of Christ.

Patricia Ann Raymond.



May God
bless you

peace and abundant
blessings be yours on
that grand occasion.
I know I will be re-
membered, but do ask
for an increase of love
for Him. I am far
from what He wants
of me.

Enclosed two Mass
stipends for my personal
sanctification. Say them
Father, whenever you can!
May your trip be one perfect
bliss Gratefully yours
E. Imelda

April 25 - 1950

Dear Father -

Sr. Margaret Mary informed me of the great and glorious news - your trip to Rome. I am thrilled for you! ...

Your soul must be filled with spiritual joy and happiness. Prick and thanks to Blessed Clare! I know that May 7th 1950 will be one of the most memorable days of your life. May heavenly

ST. IGNATIUS HIGH SCHOOL

1911 WEST THIRTIETH STREET

CLEVELAND 13, OHIO

Wednesday of Holy Week, '50

Dear Father Ellacuria,

In talking to Evelyn Gavin a few minutes ago she asked how my brother is, had I heard any more news about him. No, no more news. Then she gave me a good idea: Why not ask you to drop in and see him.

Well, here's the setting, Father: - this brother of mine, Cornelius J. Gillespie - is a 32nd degree Mason, out of the Church since 1900 or earlier. Four years ago he retired and moved from Detroit to 1930 $\frac{1}{2}$ Rodney, Los Angeles.

I thought if the Spirit moves you to drop in and see him, he's pretty sick so I have been told. About ten days ago my sister in Detroit called to ask me if I had heard from Con or Florence lately; he's very sick.

Two or three days later (I had purposely said nothing to Sr. Dianne) Sr. Dianne said to me: "Pray for your brother in California; he's very sick".

So, if not too inconvenient, Father, would you try to see my brother?

How is Sr. Dainne? Well, as we could expect, intense suffering during Lent with an increase as Good Friday approaches. She is now living with a married sister about 45 miles from Cleveland. Still, I manage to get out to see her about twice a week.

Since moving out there her sufferings are not so noticeable; I mean, while she was with Evelyn - or, vice versa - who could give her 24 hrs. a day attention, Sr. Dianne's fears and anointment were more



April 26, 1950.

Dear Mrs. Gaertner:

Many thanks for your Easter greetings and I was very happy to hear from you.

If your health is impaired again, it is because Our Lord wants you to suffer a little, or, when He needs you again for harder tasks that demand better health, He will give it to you.

You and your dear husband are certainly privileged in belonging to the inner circle of the "Little Sister." I congratulate you both with all my heart for this rare grace, and I thank Our Lord for it for you. When all this is gone, then certainly you will miss it; so be ready for the days of want, making the best use of these present days of plenty.

We are praying much for the conversion of Cornelius Gillespie. We are making a continued novena to Bl. Anthony Mary Claret for him. Also, during my pilgrimage to Rome, Cornelius' conversion will be one of my intentions.

I am flying the last day of April towards Rome, and I will be back June 18th. One of my intentions in visiting the shrines of Lourdes and Fatima is to increase my love for the Blessed Mother. Beg the "Little Sister" to plead for me so that I may love the Immaculate Heart of my Blessed Mother the way a true Claretian missionary should love her.

In Rome I will meet my Claretian Brother, Rev. Joseph Mary, and some of my family that are going to attend the canonization of Bl. Claret on May 7th.

May your present privilege of being near the "Little Sister" help you tremendously to increase every day in your faith, in your hope and in your charity.

Extend my best regards to your husband, who you told me is named Aloysius, like myself. And, hoping that maybe some day one of your sons will be a Claretian priest, I beg to remain

Sincerely and gratefully in the Immaculate
Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Mrs. Margaret Gaertner,
8204 Stratford Drive,
Parma 9, Ohio.

ST. IGNATIUS HIGH SCHOOL

1011 WEST THIRTIETH STREET

CLEVELAND 13, OHIO

150' exterior than they are now. The sister with whom she's living has seen very little of Dianne's penance; with two small children, house work, and husband, etc. she wouldn't be able to give as much attention to Sister as Evelyn could and did give.

If time permits, I surely would like to hear from you.

Best wishes for a Happy Easter.

In talking to Evelyn Gavin

she asked how my brother is,

and I told her news about him. No, no

more news. I don't have a good idea: why

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Well, here's the setting:

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Since moving out there

her sufferings are not so noticeable; I mean,

while she was with Evelyn - or, vice versa -

who could give her 24 hrs. a day attention,

Sr. Dianne's fears and abatement were more

April 26, 1950.

Dear Mrs. O'Neill:

Very many thanks for the booklets, the pictures and the letter and donation. I am taking care of the Holy Mass for your first husband. I will be very happy to procure for you a picture of the Holy Shroud of Turin and a relic of Maria Goretti and of Bl. Anthony Mary Claret.

Now may I give you the advice on not worrying at all about who parks nearby your place? Please do not watch the cars parking by or around your place. God is with you. You do not need to worry about anything. Please do not look at those cars and much less take their license numbers, because they do not park there to harm you or to watch you or to go after you. Please obey me because you have chosen me as your spiritual Father and I will be happy to help you. This persecution that you think is going on against you is only imaginary. There is no reality to it. Please believe me.

If occasionally people do something against you, you know that this happens to all of us. Have perfect peace of mind. You need it in order to put your heart at ease. Also, do not talk at home or with anyone else about this persecution against you or anything like that, because there is nothing to it.

I will be very happy to remember you, your dear husband and your sister on my pilgrimage and always, if I ever have the chance while passing in your neighborhood, I will be happy to see you.

May God bless you and love you more and more.

Your spiritual Father in the Immaculate Heart
of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Mrs. Florence O'Neill,
P. O. Box 3054, Terminal Annex,
Los Angeles, Calif.

April 26, 1950.

Dear Margaret Mary:

This coming Sunday, the last of April, I am flying to Rome on my pilgrimage to attend the canonization of the Founder of my Congregation, Bl. Anthony Mary Claret. He is going to be made a Saint May 7th by the Holy Father, Pius XII. I am going to be away until June 18th and I am going to visit the shrines of Lourdes, Fatima, and many other holy places, and I will pray at all of them for your soul so that Our Lord may give you many graces. I will pray also for every member of your dear family.

Offer up to Our Lord Crucified your sickness, for all His intentions. By bearing up this sickness with resignation, you deserve much before God.

I hope that your sister Mabelle feels better. I have been praying for her.

Also, extend my best regards to everyone of your dear family. Continue saying your Rosary very devoutly every day, because the Bl. Mother loves you very much and is preparing your place up above in heaven, there to enjoy the eternal bliss of God with your dear daughter, Beata Alberta Therese.

God love you!

Your spiritual Father in the Immaculate
Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Margaret Mary Bell,
636 Dudley Ave.,
Fresno 3, Calif.

April 26, 1950.

Dear Sister Aimee:

I was very happy to hear from you. I remember you as distinctly as if I never had gone away from my duties as a confessor and spiritual director for Our Lady Academy. I am very interested in my prayers to help all those whom I ever have had under my spiritual guidance.

Now, dear Sister, even if you are advancing in age, do not ask for a release from your present duties as a teacher. Let the superiors make the decision, and in the meanwhile ask Our Lord and the Blessed Mother for an increase of strength every day so to bear up with your duties as if you were just a youngster. Likewise, in your spiritual life, renew the fervor of your novitiate and be most sorry for every negligence of the past. Start again every day trying to do all your spiritual exercises with keen earnestness. Let your charity for the other sisters also be better every day, doing things for others and going out of your own self to alleviate the burdens of others.

I will remember you very much on my pilgrimage to Rome. Extend my best regards to your sister, Sister Ambrose, who works in St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee.

God love you more and more every day, Sister, and may you love Him more and more too.

Sincerely in the Immaculate Heart
of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Sister Aimee of Jesus,
Our Lady Academy,
Manteno, Ill.

April 26, 1950.

Dear Evelyn Marie:

I just received your beautiful card with a lovely picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and I want to thank you for your message and for your thoughtfulness.

On the last day of April, I am flying to Rome and I will be back June 18th. There in Rome I will attend the canonization of Bl. Anthony Mary Claret, my dear Founder, on May 7th.

You don't need my poor prayers, but I will be very happy to join my prayers to those of your "Little Sister" on your behalf. Ask her to pray for me for a safe journey and that this pilgrimage may help me particularly to increase my love for the Blessed Mother and to become a better instrument for the salvation of souls. We are making a continuous novena to Bl. Anthony Claret for the conversion of Cornelius Gillespie, and I pronounce his name aloud every morning, begging Bl. Claret to convert him. So, the prayers of all of you there and our prayers here are going to storm heaven on behalf of Cornelius. Also, tell his brother that I will pray for Cornelius throughout my entire pilgrimage, above all in Fatima.

May you advance more and more every day in your holiness while nursing the "Little Sister." Could you give her the enclosed petition from one of my novices?

My best regards to everyone of your family. God love you more and more every day!

Sincerely in the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, O. M. F.

Miss Evelyn Marie Gavin,
10801 Miles Avenue,
Cleveland 5, Ohio.

27
April 1950.

Dear Sister Ann Raymond:

May Our Lord and the Bl. Mother and St. Joseph pay you back for your delicate thoughtfulness towards me. Your letter with its contents was a most welcome surprise.

I intend to bring for everyone of your sisters a little crucifix of St. Anthony Claret with a first class relic in it. The only thing I request from you is that you say to my Father Superior that you would like to have a crucifix like that for each of your sisters. I think that they should have it because they are so enthusiastic about my dear Founder. You all have been so cooperative that I think he wants to have you all share his relics. You ask my Father Superior that you would like to have some of those relics for some of those other sisters, like your Mother General and others, and I will be happy to bring as many relics of St. Anthony Claret as I can from Rome so that he will be loved by all and Our Lord will make His power manifest through him.

May I thank you very much for bringing Mrs. Spillane. Tell her that this morning, together with your letter, I received one from Father Mary Emmanuel. Yesterday you and his mother visited me. Today I get your letter and his in the same mail. He writes a very beautiful letter and it deserves a direct answer to the points he writes me about. It is such a great privilege, dear Sister Ann Raymond, to deal with souls that want to love God with all their heart and soul.

On my pilgrimage to Rome and to the holy shrines of Lourdes and Fatima, I will pray very very much for you. You are doing great work financially and spiritually. We need leaders and Our Lord has given you this double leadership for His greater glory and the good of souls.

I told Father Superior this morning that no place like yours has reacted so favorably towards the devotion to St. Anthony Claret, and Father admitted it to be true, and I was so very happy because Father does not know in this matter, even the least of so much that is going on of fervor and devotion in your dear St. Johns.

God love you more and more every day and reward you for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely and gratefully in the Immaculate Heart
of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

April 27, 1950.

Dear Sister Imelda:

I was happy to hear from you, and we are grateful for the stipends for the two Masses. I will be extremely happy to pray for you, above all before the shrines of Lourdes and Fatima.

Your love, Sister Imelda, has been very great towards the Bl. Mother, and I will ask her that this Holy Year she intervene with her Divine Son to place you in the spiritual life right where you belong. Feel very happy, dear Sister, and have unbounded confidence in Our Lord and in the Bl. Mother. Keep this picture of the Sacred Heart which I enclose, and tell the Sacred Heart many times, "With all my heart I love You!" I blessed this picture for you so that every time you kiss it your love for the Sacred Heart may increase as well as your detachment from creatures.

Sincerely and gratefully in the
Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Sister Imelda,
St. Mary's Hospital,
Kankakee, Ill.

April 27, 1950.

Dear Mother Mary:

Many thanks for your card and for your donation. I will have your soul very present during my whole pilgrimage and I will be asking Our Lord and the Bl. Mother as well as my dear saintly Founder, St. Anthony Claret, to flood you with divine grace and to make the grace overflow in you so to give out of the abundance of you heart and plentifully to your subjects.

Continue praying for me so that this pilgrimage may turn out for me a great means to increase especially in my love for the Immaculate Heart of my Bl. Mother and to make me a much better instrument for the salvation of souls.

My deepest thanks again for your continued thoughtfulness towards me, for all these eleven or twelve years.

God love you more and more every moment.

Your spiritual Father in the Immaculate
Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Milacuria, C.M.F.

Mother Mary of the Precious Blood,
Holy Family Academy,
Beaverville, Ill.

April 27, 1950.

Dear Sister Mary Virginia:

I was happy to hear from you, and we are grateful for your Mass stipend.

I regret that my airplane stop in Chicago will be only one half-hour, and it will therefore be impossible for us to have the conference you speak of.

I will be praying very much for you. Write me all about your interior life, and in the meantime be most generous with God, giving Him all your love.

Extend my best regards to your family.

Most gratefully, I am

Your spiritual Father,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Sister Mary Virginia,
St. Genevieve Convent,
4846 Montana St.,
Chicago 39, Ill.

J. M. J.
Reverend & Dear Father Mayseis -

I am asking Mrs Rose to deliver this letter to you at the Air port. So that you may read it as you fly to the Eternal City - spiritually more than by plane.

For Father Spillane to introduce you to us is one of his many favors to our community. I have just received your letter telling me that you heard from him yesterday. I hope that you can find time to write him before you leave the City. He cherishes your guidance. Your clear vision of his soul, gives you a full realization of the adjustment he is making and how much he needs our prayers that God will be most generous with His graces

during these first months of his new life - God is never outdone in generosity so that the rough path that Father Emmanuel is teaching God can not but sweeten with interior graces.

Jane Honer, visited me yesterday, God love her generous soul. she had received a bell of the Little Flower and she thought we should keep it here at the hospital for the sick.

She told me of her talk with you at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Her simplicity was beautiful - she said "Father and I talked about twenty minutes, really it was like the confessional and yet we sat right there with people all round us, drinking and dancing

but I am hoping her plans may be
changed so she will be in Rome
for the Canonization of Saint Anthony
Claret. I am writing her a note that
you are to be there -

Father, I want to tell you that I talked
to Mr Burke, for whom I asked you
to pray. (He needs God's grace so very
much) His voice sounded so good
he said he was feeling better, and his
dear wife who is a convert told me
his improvement is almost miraculous.

And the sixteen year old boy who has a
syphilitic condition of both eyes
and who has suffered severe
pain told me today his eyes
are less painful -
As I told you Father, there are

Father you are very kind in thinking
of bringing us some relics of Saint
Anthony Claret. If they can be in
small crucifixes like the last one
Father Freson gave me for the Hospital
we will appreciate it. Then they may
be blessed for a happy death. If it
is not possible for you to obtain
them while you are in Rome,
and you could obtain them
later, that will be most agreeable
to us. I asked Father Freson
for twelve relics.

You will have so much to see and
attend to on this trip, I hope I am
not asking too much if you call
on Mrs Ruth Kane, her address
is Vittoria Hotel, Rome. She
intends to leave Rome May sixth

and it was as if we were alone."

I thought it was dear of her to say to me - "Father said he feared for my soul unless I learned young my responsibility to bring my soul to God." She appreciates your counsel and the graces she has received. She says now she has such peace of soul and the realization that she is never alone. Isn't that a beautiful thought for one in her field of work? She spoke of her joy and happiness after receiving Our Blessed Lord in Holy Communion.

On Wednesday she had attained the ceremonies of clatching when two

novies received their habits
at Mother Gabriel's convent. Father
Parrish gave the talk, which she
said was beautiful on the
brides of Christ, as His tabernacles
of love -

Jane said she hoped to call on
you when you returned from Rome.

He is going to Rome in September. - He
especially desires to visit the Little
Flower Convent. One of our Sisters
writes to Mother Agnes, so I told
Jane I would write her a letter
of introduction. The Nuns in
Lisieux have been praying for the
success of our building. I will
ask Miss Haver to give them a
report on its progress.

The enclosed money is for you
to use for your trip it is made
as an offering to Jesus, Mary and
Joseph that all of my Sisters here
may be true to our vows. I beg
God to make known His Will in my
regard and ask Him to keep me
pure and prepare me for His
sweet embrace as I open my
eyes in Eternity.

May God protect you and bring
you safely home the City
of the Angels.

Remindly yours in the Heart of Christ.

Sister Ann Raymond

April 28. 1950.

so many intentions to pray for.

Will you please pray for mine
and I will add the many that
come to my mind.

A very special community intention
for which I ask your prayers is
our General Chapter this summer.

May the Holy Ghost direct our
actions and give the one God has
in mind for our Mother General the
qualities He wishes her to have.

I appreciated the three hail songs
you recited in your chapel
Wednesday that each Sister at
Saint Johns may attain that
degree of sanctity God has in
mind for her. please include
in that prayer our entire community

There were poles a little thought of the fire was in the house.

April 28, 1950.

My dear Father Mary Emmanuel:

The arrival of your letter has been most timely. Your letter arrived here yesterday, the 27th. The day before I had the privilege of meeting your dear mother. Sister Ann Raymond and Sister Mary Eunice brought her early in the afternoon. I cannot describe in words the depth of our interview. The only thing I can tell you very decidedly is that, though your mother is in tears very often, down deep in her heart there is a great joy with the assurance of the plans that God has for you. As long as it is the Will of God that you be where you are, she is the happiest mother and most willing to make the sacrifice of being absent from you. In fact your mother feels so fortunate in having her Joseph as a Trappist monk. The great love that your mother has for the Holy Spirit cannot act differently in her soul but to follow His leadings. I hope to see your mother every now and then, considering it a privilege, too, to consult and encourage her.

My deepest thanks for your constant prayers, especially for praying for the eternal rest of my dear mother, and for me to be remembered in the Holy Mass by you is indeed an unspeakable joy to my heart by realizing what the Holy Mass is. I beg of you to continue doing the same always and it will be the same here with me for you.

Though I am not any more your spiritual Father, I want to give you my word of encouragement to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the present state of your soul. First of all, I congratulate you for a very particular love that God has for you. God, right from the outset of your entrance into the monastic life, began, or rather continued even much more decidedly His work in you by immersing your soul even more deeply into the depths of Passive Purifications. You see, my dear Father Mary Emmanuel, in the novitiate the superiors are testing you, but much more so God Himself is testing your fidelity and He is working fast, and, as I told you quite a few times, He wants to have free sway within your soul.

What a beautiful and appropriate name you have been given--God with us, Emmanuel. God is with you and within you, taking great complacency in purifying your soul more and more. In the midst of this thick darkness there is a great light. God Himself is this light. You are walking straight ahead towards this light and the more you approach it, you see yourself more loathsome, more unworthy, even more abominable in the sight of God. You are every day more keenly aware of God's infinite holiness and you feel so imperfect, you see your faults so much more distinctly, you feel the urge to approach God more and more, and you feel, as it were, repelled by the sanctity of God. You don't feel up to par in His presence. You detest your sins so much more sorrowfully. In the midst of the great aridity in the depth of your soul

There is such an urge to increase your love for God, to believe Him more, to trust Him more, to do things for Him, to make yourself faithful and loyal to Him, you will do anything that He will demand from you. This aridity and dark night coming to you right at the outset while your health is not growing any stronger and with the doubts that the ulcers of your stomach might even place you out of the monastery--all these are excruciating to your soul and to your manly but most tender heart. Therefore it is purifying and very highly so. God is taking His complacency with you. He is your Father Emmanuel. He is your most loving Father that is with you. And Mary, your dearest Mother, is with you too. They want many like yourself, but there are not many that offer themselves to their service as you, by the great mercy of God, have offered yourself. You say that you have never felt farther away from God, but indeed you never have been so close to Him. How beautifully you put it in your short letter, though so very short, but plain enough so that I can read your soul--"pray that I cooperate perfectly with His grace." Yes, my dear Father Mary Emmanuel, Our Lord is not losing any time with you but is doing His work unhindered and with your full cooperation. God is just flooding you with His graces. These graces don't show exteriorly yet, just like the strong foundations of a beautiful new cathedral remain hidden, but a beautiful structure that the new generations will admire will be resting on those foundations; in the same way, the living cathedral that you are going to build, where the Holy Trinity will be enshrined, will rest on these present foundations which the Holy Spirit with the Bl. Mother is laying at the present moment in your soul. For courage and joy to help you in your great aridity, nothing is better than to join yourself at every moment to all the Holy Masses that are going on all over the world, uniting yourself in spirit as closely as possible with Christ, the High Priest, in His perfect adoration, thanksgiving, atonement, and impetration. Then, at all times be aware of the Holy Trinity dwelling within you and say these four expressions: I adore You...I thank You...I beg Your pardon...I request from you... Repeat these four expressions over and over again and then kiss your crucifix with all your love, kiss your Holy Rosary, kiss the Bl. Mother in it.

I am leaving this coming Sunday and I will be back June 18th. I will offer my pilgrimage most particularly for the success of your vocation, among other intentions.

Give my best regards to John Popson, and encourage him Father, because he has a beautiful and generous soul.

I am enclosing several pictures of my dear Father Founder, and give one to him and the others to your Abbot and Father Master.

May the Bl. Mother be your life, your light, your sweetness and your hope throughout the night of Passive Purifications of your soul.

Sincerely in the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Rev. Mary Emmanuel, O.C.S.O.,
Abbey of Our Lady of the Holy Trinity,
Huntsville, Utah.